

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church and School (LCMS)

Est. 1864



Pastors:

Matthew V. Moss and Matthew P. Johnson

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Important Announcements

For those who watch services on Live-Stream during the Coronavirus Pandemic

Stay Home when Sick: If you are sick or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 please stay home. If you start to experience symptoms while in attendance at a service or out anywhere else, please go home immediately. If at a service, notify a Safety Team member on your way out so we may direct our cleaning and communication efforts.

Singing (updated): MDH has gone from requiring no congregational singing to “not recommended” but does say that if a congregation sings masks and distancing are required. Please tune in early and stay late for the preludes, postludes, and sing with us the hymns that will be provided in the online bulletins.

Maintaining Piety when Worshiping at Home: The best way to get the most out of this temporary set-up is to keep things in your household as regular as possible:

- Print the bulletin or use your hymnals
- Dress like you would dress for church
- Stand when we stand, sit when we sit
- Sing along with the hymns
- Watch at the live time, Sunday morning, setting it aside as first priority instead of looking for whatever time is most convenient for you
- Limit the distractions, toys, and tech so that the time is truly "sacred" (set-apart) for Christ and His means of grace

These ideas can help you focus on the Service of the Word and will also help you prevent bad habits from developing during our temporary suspension of Divine Services

Palm Sunday

March 28, 2021

Preacher: Pr. Matthew Johnson

Liturgist: Pr. Matthew Moss

Kantor: Dr. Crystal Rossow

Special Note for the Live Stream: Because the Absolution and Communion are sacramental acts that require the in-person interaction of penitent & pastor and communicant & pastor, we will not Live Stream those portions of the Divine Service. If you desire a more detailed explanation of the status of the controversies in Christianity and the LCMS around these acts that have led us to this decision on this practice, your pastors are more than willing to discuss it with you.

+ PROCESSION OF PALMS +

P The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

P Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

C Hosanna to the Son of David.

COLLECT

P Let us pray.

Most merciful God, as the people of Jerusalem, with palms in their hands, gathered to greet Your dearly beloved Son when He came into His Holy City, grant that we may ever hail Him as our King and, when He comes again, may go forth to meet Him with trusting and steadfast hearts and follow Him in the way that leads to eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 12:12–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

P ¹²The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" ¹⁴And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

¹⁵“Fear not, daughter of Zion;
 behold, your king is coming,
 sitting on a donkey’s colt!”

¹⁶His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. ¹⁷The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. ¹⁸The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. ¹⁹So the Pharisees said to one another, “You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

P Let us go forth in peace,

C in the name of the Lord.

442 ALL GLORY, LAUD, AND HONOR

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or To You, Re - deem - er, King,
 To whom the lips of chil - dren Made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

- 1 You are the King of Is - rael And Da - vid’s roy - al Son,
- 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels Is prais - ing You on high,
- 3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims With palms be - fore You went;
- 4 To You be - fore Your pas - sion They sang their hymns of praise;
- 5 As You re - ceived their prais - es, Ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain

Now in the Lord’s name com - ing, Our King and Bless - ed One.
 And we with all cre - a - tion In cho - rus make re - ply.
 Our praise and prayer and an - thems Be - fore You we pre - sent.
 To You, now high ex - alt - ed, Our mel - o - dy we raise.
 O Source of ev - ’ry bless - ing, Our good and gra - cious King.

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P Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

C Hosanna in the highest.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great

humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

EPISTLE

Philippians 2:5–11

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

440 JESUS, I WILL PONDER NOW

st. 1



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;
With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.
Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish
Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.

Tune and text: Public domain

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 26:1—27:66

L The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh chapters.

³¹Then Jesus said to them,

P “You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ ³²But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.”

L ³³Peter answered him,

C “Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.”

L ³⁴Jesus said to him,

P *“Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.”*

L ³⁵Peter said to him,

C **“Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!”**

L And all the disciples said the same. ³⁶Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples,

P *“Sit here, while I go over there and pray.”*

L ³⁷And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. ³⁸Then he said to them,

P *“My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me.”*

L ³⁹And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying,

P *“My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.”*

L ⁴⁰And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter,

P *“So, could you not watch with me one hour? ⁴¹Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”*

L ⁴²Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed,

P *“My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.”*

L ⁴³And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. ⁴⁵Then he came to the disciples and said to them,

P *“Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand.”*

L ⁴⁷While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. ⁴⁸Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying,

C **“The one I will kiss is the man; seize him.”**

L ⁴⁹And he came up to Jesus at once and said,

C **“Greetings, Rabbi!”**

L And he kissed him. ⁵⁰Jesus said to him,

P *“Friend, do what you came to do.”*

L Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him. ⁵¹And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. ⁵²Then Jesus said to him,

P *“Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. ⁵³Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? ⁵⁴But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?”*

L ⁵⁵At that hour Jesus said to the crowds,

P *“Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. ⁵⁶But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.”*

L Then all the disciples left him and fled. ⁵⁷Then those who had seized Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. ⁵⁸And Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. ⁵⁹Now the chief priests and the whole Council were seeking false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, ⁶⁰but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward ⁶¹and said,

C **“This man said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to rebuild it in three days.’”**

L ⁶²And the high priest stood up and said,

C **“Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?”**

L ⁶³But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him,

C **“I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.”**

L ⁶⁴Jesus said to him,

P *“You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.”*

L ⁶⁵Then the high priest tore his robes and said,

C **“He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy. ⁶⁶What is your judgment?”**

L They answered,

C **“He deserves death.”**

L ⁶⁷Then they spit in his face and struck him. And some slapped him, ⁶⁸saying,

C **“Prophecy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?”**

L ⁶⁹Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came up to him and said,

C **“You also were with Jesus the Galilean.”**

L ⁷⁰But he denied it before them all, saying,

C “I do not know what you mean.”

L ⁷¹And when he went out to the entrance, another servant girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders,

C **“This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.”**

L ⁷²And again he denied it with an oath:

C **“I do not know the man.”**

L ⁷³After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter,

C **“Certainly you too are one of them, for your accent betrays you.”**

L ⁷⁴Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear,

C **“I do not know the man.”**

L And immediately the rooster crowed. ⁷⁵And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus,

P *“Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.”*

L And he went out and wept bitterly. ¹When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death. ²And they bound him and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate the governor. ³Then when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he changed his mind and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, ⁴saying,

C **“I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.”**

L They said,

C **“What is that to us? See to it yourself.”**

L ⁵And throwing down the pieces of silver into the temple, he departed, and he went and hanged himself. ⁶But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said,

C **“It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since it is blood money.”**

L ⁷So they took counsel and bought with them the potter’s field as a burial place for strangers. ⁸Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. ⁹Then was fulfilled what had been spoken by the prophet Jeremiah, saying, “And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him on whom a price had been set by some of the sons of Israel, ¹⁰and they gave them for the potter’s field, as the Lord directed me.”

¹¹Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him,

C **“Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said,**

P *“You have said so.”*

L ¹²But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he gave no answer. ¹³Then Pilate said to him,

C **“Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?”**

L ¹⁴But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed. ¹⁵Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. ¹⁶And they had then a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. ¹⁷So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them,

C **“Whom do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?”**

L ¹⁸For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up. ¹⁹Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him,

C **“Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much because of him today in a dream.”**

L ²⁰Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. ²¹The governor again said to them,

C **“Which of the two do you want me to release for you?”**

L And they said,

C **“Barabbas.”**

L ²²Pilate said to them,

C **“Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?”**

L They all said,

C **“Let him be crucified!”**

L ²³And he said,

C **“Why, what evil has he done?”**

L But they shouted all the more,

C **“Let him be crucified!”**

L ²⁴So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying,

C **“I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.”**

L ²⁵And all the people answered,

C **“His blood be on us and on our children!”**

L ²⁶Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified. ²⁷Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. ²⁸And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, ²⁹and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying,

C "Hail, King of the Jews!"

L ³⁰And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. ³¹And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him. ³²As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry his cross. ³³And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), ³⁴they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. ³⁵And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots. ³⁶Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. ³⁷And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." ³⁸Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. ³⁹And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads ⁴⁰and saying,

C "You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross."

L ⁴¹So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying,

C ⁴²"He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. ⁴³He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, 'I am the Son of God.'"

L ⁴⁴And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way. ⁴⁵Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. ⁴⁶And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying,

P "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?"

L that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" ⁴⁷And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said,

C "This man is calling Elijah."

L ⁴⁸And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink. ⁴⁹But the others said,

C "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him."

L ⁵⁰And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.

silence

L ⁵¹And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. ⁵²The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, ⁵³and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. ⁵⁴When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said,

C "Truly this was the Son of God!"

L ⁵⁵There were also many women there, looking on from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him, ⁵⁶among whom were Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joseph and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

⁵⁷When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. ⁵⁹And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud ⁶⁰and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. ⁶¹Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

⁶²Next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate ⁶³and said,

C "Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise.' ⁶⁴Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last fraud will be worse than the first."

L ⁶⁵Pilate said to them,

C "You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can."

L ⁶⁶So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

The Small Catechism: The Second Article of the Creed

THE SECOND ARTICLE

Redemption

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

This is most certainly true.

438 A LAMB GOES UNCOMPLAINING FORTH



1 A Lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth, The
 2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, The
 3 "Yes, Fa - ther, yes, most will - ing - ly I'll
 4 Lord, when Your glo - ry I shall see And



guilt of sin - ners bear - ing And, lad - en with the
 Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, Whom God the Fa - ther
 bear what You com - mand Me. My will con - forms to
 taste Your king - dom's plea - sure, Your blood my roy - al



sins of earth, None else the bur - den shar - ing; Goes
 chose to send To gain for us His fa - vor. "Go
 Your de - cree, I'll do what You have asked Me." O
 robe shall be, My joy be - yond all mea - sure! When



pa - tient on, grows weak and faint, To slaugh - ter led with -
 forth, My Son," the Fa - ther said, "And free My chil - dren
 won - drous Love, what have You done! The Fa - ther of - fers
 I ap - pear be - fore Your throne, Your righ - teous - ness shall



out com - plaint, That spot - less life to of - fer, He bears the
 from their dread Of guilt and con - dem - na - tion. The wrath and
 up His Son, De - sir - ing our sal - va - tion. O Love, how
 be my crown; With these I need not hide me. And there, in



stripes, the wounds, the lies, The mock - er - y, and
 stripes are hard to bear, But by Your pas - sion
 strong You are to save! You lay the One in -
 gar - ments rich - ly wrought, As Your own bride shall



yet re - plies, "All this I glad - ly suf - fer."
 they will share The fruit of Your sal - va - tion."
 to the grave Who built the earth's foun - da - tion.
 we be brought To stand in joy be - side You.

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SERMON: "There Must Be True Witness" (John 12; Philippians 2; Matthew 26-27)

C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Prayer of the Church

Following the prayers, the Live Stream ends and the Service of the Sacrament begins.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Members who are sick and in need of healing and comfort— Rick Bymark (wife Jackie, son Hank), Lynn Slauson, Pam Linton (daughter of LaVerne & Arlene Bagne), Ilene Shepherd, Brigitte Ritter, Dr. Crystal Rossow, Charice McDowell, Mavis Kalk, Joyce O’Hern, Melvin Haag, Patrick Oberle, Ramona Von Ende, Bruce Hansen, Justin Brynjulfson, Doris Gangelhoff, Barb Grambart, Dick Rau, Randy Goerke, Diane Haag, Sandy Meyer, Elwyn Manthei, Arleen Barrett, and Harlan Peterson. Our Lord Jesus, who reached out to heal and comfort the sick and dying, continues to reach out with His healing Word through us. Cards, phone calls, and prayers are always appreciated. If you know of someone who is sick or hospitalized, please inform your pastors.

Our homebound members are John and Arleen Barrett, Sue Erickson, Inez Koehler, Steve Orbin, Mark Pruhs, Amy Schalo, and Ilene Shepherd.

All those serving in our Armed Forces— Agena Christophersen (Belgium), Emily Giefer (Georgia), Kevin Mazurowski (Alaska), Nathan Mazurowski (Arizona), Isak Preus (Florida), Brian Pruhs (Germany), Joseph Radintz (home), and Danny Schilling (home).

Those who have lost loved ones during the past year— Jan Stadler & family (at the loss of her sister, JoAnne Hackbarth), Justin Bermel & family (at the loss of his brother Jeffrey), John Meyer & family (at the loss of his brother Jeff), the family of Larry Jobes, Dan Kappel & family (at the loss of his father Francis), Joellyn Wicht & family (at the loss of her mother Frances Spielman), Larissa Alvarez & family (at the loss of her grandmother Luci Correa), the family of Fred Hunt, the family of Diane Lawrence, Gerald Anderson & family (at the loss of his father Dale), Joyce O’Hern & family (at the loss of her father-in-law Marland), Arlene Rogge & family (at the loss of her father George Hackler), Lois Foggia & family (at the loss of her brother-in-law Tom Hooker), the family of Vivian Kuns, Stephanie Haver & family (at the loss of her brother Brandon), Char Abraham & family (at the loss of her brother Russell), the family of Linda Bredenberg, the family of Tracey Rosso, Cindy Cook & family (at the loss of her brother, Daniel Anderson), the family of Gerald Oswald, Kyle Gaffaney & family (at the loss of his grandfather Bill Reese), Jim Day & family (at the loss of his sister), and Heidi Brackeen & family (at the loss of her father Dennis Anderson).

And we remember those who have recently lost loved ones— the family of Marlys Johnson, the family of Harold Grambart, the family of Courtney Meine, Marlys Kothrade & family (at the loss of her great-grandson Lukas Bouska), Bob and Char Abraham (at the loss of their daughter-in-law Debra Abraham), and Tony Stadler & family (at the loss of his brother Ted).

All expecting families and their unborn children— especially Stephanie & Noah Heidorn, Martha & Aaron Reseburg, Jenna & Leighton Spaulding, Ashley & Nick Baltes, and Jamie & Jim Peterson. If you would like to announce your pregnancy to the Church that we might pray for you, please contact one of our pastors.

THIS WEEK: The congregations in our circuit are praying for Shepherd of the Grove Lutheran & Childcare Center, Maple Grove, and Pastor Tim Lamkin, Sr.

PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH & SCHOOL: This week we pray for our Safety Team, our PTL Members, and our Eighth Grade Language Arts Teacher/School Administrator-Principal Gretchen Dolan.

† Announcements †

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY (1st Peter): Faithful Christians should expect trials and suffering in this life. Our Lord promised it. In Peter's first epistle he strengthens the Church for such suffering and trials. It is a message of great hope and the promises of glory for those who endure the fiery trials. Join us at 9:30 A.M. in the Fellowship Hall as we take up this great Book of Holy Scripture.

Mar. 28 – 2 Peter 1:12-21 – *The Certainty of the Christian Hope: Scripture and the Apostolic Witness*

Apr. 4 – *Easter Sunday: no class*

PREPARING FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Parents with hands full in the pews on Sunday morning sometimes need a little *time with the texts* in the week leading up to a Service. People new to Lutheranism sometimes need more context to the Service. Some members simply look for more in-depth study of the appointed readings. We encourage you to follow Issues, Etc. on your podcasting App or at their website, especially using Pastor David Peterson's "Looking Ahead to Sunday Morning (the 1-Year Lectionary)." Next Easter Sunday April 4th you will hear: *Isaiah 25:6-9, 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, and John 20:1-18 (at the 6am Sunrise Service) ...-or-... Job 19:23-27, 1 Corinthians 5:6-8, and Mark 16:1-8 (at the 8am & 10:30 am Services).*

EASTER LILIES: The Altar Guild is providing an opportunity for congregation members to purchase Easter lilies to decorate the Church for Easter Sunday. It can then be picked-up after the last service and enjoyed by you at your home. Please complete and return the order form if you wish to purchase as Easter lily. ***Today is the deadline.***

SUNDAY PASSENGER: A member of our congregation is seeking a ride to church. Dale Avenson has returned to the Twin Cities area (Minnetonka) from the southwestern United States. Please contact one of the pastors with questions and for contact information if you might be able to be of assistance.

GREEN PARAMENTS & VESTMENTS: Our current green paraments and vestments are over 20 years old and are showing a bit of wear, therefore a new green set has been selected. The cost for the new set is approximately \$6700. If you would like to contribute towards this purchase, you may place your donation in the offering plate with the memo "Altar Guild Replacement Green Paraments". The purchase will include the following items: Altar Superfrontal, Chalice Veil and Burse, Bible Marker for the Lectern, Pulpit Fall, Chasuble, and 3 Stoles. Should questions arise, please contact Julie Mazurowski at 763-519-1160 or julie.mazurowski@gmail.com

THE SERVICE OF INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION is available this month by appointment only. Take advantage of this opportunity to hear God's Word of forgiveness spoken to you individually in Jesus' Name. "If we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK... Sunday, March 21st: Total 191 CM 129

Judica Wed, March 24th: Total 53

HOLY WEEK/EASTER SIGN-UP FOR SERVICE ATTENDANCE: It's not too late to sign-up for Holy Week and Easter services; please visit our website, stj.lutheran.org for the list of services, and links to the sign-up. There is no capacity limit currently in place by the government, but signing up in advance and encouraging friends and family to do the same will help us prepare. Thank you.

FINANCIAL UPDATE	<u>Last Week</u> 03/21/21	<u>Year-to-date</u> since 07/01/20
Total General Fund Receipts-All Sources	\$ 15,370	\$ 1,231,815
Amount Needed	\$ 28,363	\$ 1,257,591
Amount Ahead (Behind)	\$ (12,993)	\$ (25,776)
% Ahead (-Behind)		-2%
Current Building Mortgage Balance (February 28, 2021):	\$ 200,540	

Amount Needed above includes all budgeted revenues, including offerings, school tuition and third-source income, for the current budget year beginning July 1, 2020. There was no cumulative deficit as of July 1. Questions can be directed to Church Treasurer Mike Gaffer (mtgaff@comcast.net)

POSITIONS AVAILABLE: St. John's Lutheran School is seeking to hire individuals for the following positions to start in the 2021-2022 school year:

- Resource/Special Education Teacher (contracted with LSEM)
- Hot Lunch Coordinator (part-time or full-time)
- Teacher Assistants (potential part-time or full-time help in PreK, 1st grade, 3rd grade)
- ESP Aides (after-school care positions available)
- Music Teacher (part-time, primarily grades 5-8)
- Substitute Teachers (any availability)
- We are also interested to know if anyone has or is willing to attain a bus driving license to be hired as needed for help with school activities and transportation.

If you or anyone you know has interest in one of these roles, please contact Gretchen Dolan at the school office 763-420-2426 or gretchen.dolan@stjlutheranschool.org.

POSITION FILLED: We are thankful to God that Anna Fuhrman, alumna of St. John's, has accepted the position as a PreK teacher in our school starting this fall. She will replace Brittany Strohschein who is moving to WI in June. Anna will be an incredible asset and blessing to our students, faculty, and families. Praise be to God!

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT UNDERWAY: *Invite your friends and family to check out St. John's Lutheran School!* We are actively enrolling students at St. John's for the 2021-22 school year and are especially eager to expand our Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten classes. Please spread the word to your family and friends! Some classes currently have waitlists, but call us to learn about availability in grades 1-8. We'd love to grow our St. John's family! Contact admissions@stjlutheran.org or call 763-420-2426 for more information.

WEST LUTHERAN High School is looking to fill a full time administrative assistant position. This person would report directly to the principal. Hours are 7:30 -- 3:30 each week. If you are interested please email ngomke@westlutheran.net and dgartner@westlutheran.net. West Lutheran High School would like to fill this role by April 1.

PLEASE CALL FIRST: In order to better protect you, our students and staff, we are limiting foot traffic through the building during the day. Please make an appointment with one of our secretaries to pick up any church items. Your materials can be placed in a holding bin located in the vestibule, between the double doorway for pick up at your designated appointment.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: (March 28 – April 3) **Sunday-** Jada Clifford/Carson Dufault, **Monday-** Joseph Baldwin/Eileen Ballou/Nicki Brastad/Douglas Cook, **Tuesday-** Gavin Blanck, **Wednesday-** James Day/Darla Priebe, **Thursday-** ..., **Friday-** Jessica Anderson/Al Brackeen, **Saturday-** Thomas Bruce/Donna Kliche

†HOLY WEEK SERVICES†

<i>Monday – Wednesday (March 29-31): Evening Devotions</i>	<i>7:00 pm</i>
<i>Maundy Thursday (April 1): Divine Service & Stripping of the Altar</i>	<i>7:00 pm</i>
<i>Good Friday (April 2): Chief Service of the Word</i>	<i>12:30 pm</i>
<i>Tenebrae Vespers</i>	<i>7:00 pm</i>
<i>Holy Saturday (April 3): Easter Vigil</i>	<i>7:00 pm</i>
<i>EASTER SUNDAY (April 4): Sunrise Divine Service</i>	<i>6:00 am</i>
<i>Divine Services</i>	<i>8:00 & 10:30 am</i>